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REMARKS

The Official Action has been carefully considered and the Examiner's comments are duly noted. Reconsideration of this application in light of the amendment for the claims and arguments submitted is respectfully solicited.

It should be noted that an extension request is necessary and it is respectfully asked that a one-month term extension to April 3, 2002 be granted.

Our check in the amount of \$ 55.00 for the one month term extension (small entity) is enclosed.

For the sake of the record, claims 1 to 3 and 5 to 7 were amended. In addition, to complete the claims desired, new claims 9 to 12 have been added.

With respect to the claims objections raised in paragraphs 3 and 4, the amended claims take into consideration the Examiner's comments and these amendments were effected as will be noted by the Appendix which shows the version with the markings to show changes made.

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Turning now more specifically to paragraph 5 and the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) and the rejection of claims 1 to 8 as being unpatentable over Baratz et al U.S. Patent No. 5, 742,596, and taken with and in view of the prior art admitted by the applicant and specifically RU Patent No. 2,105,425 here and Skigin et al, applicant respectfully submit that all the claims now in this application as amended are carefully patentable over the two references taken either singly or combined in any valid combination.

The applicant agrees to make appropriate correction.

The applicant has analyzed the arguments of the patent examiner with reference to col. 4 line 6 through col. 6 line 6, col. 9 line 6-41, col. 8 line 56-58, col. 6 line 1-6 and col. 5 lines 65-66 (US PAT. 5,742,596 hereinafter Baratz) and would like to provide the following comments and desires to draw attention of the patent examiner to the following facts as the applicant understands the disclosure of the citations, and submits the following conclusion.

Telephony server modules and their associated software may be

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installed in any host computer attached to network 37 (col. 5 lines 3 1-33).

The interface module (172) may be hosted by any host computer, including the same host computer for telephony server module (170), or telephony server 44 (col. 9 lines 11-13, see FIG.1). Similar in construction to telephony server module 170, analog voice from the extensions is digitized, packetized and placed onto network 37 (see FIG.1) by the host PC (col. 9 lines 36-38).

As noted from the comments above with respect to the claims, the formal amendments requested by the Examiner have been effected, but such amendment does not limit the scope of protection. In this respect, with respect to claim 1 the reasons for amendment are as follows:

The limitation "said network" on page 16 line 5 refers to a telephone network. It is clear from prior state of the Art. If necessary the applicant agrees to exclude from claim 1 the words: "connected to said network". This is left to the Examiner's discretion.

Nevertheless, the amendments for the claims are considered to be satisfactory.

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The limitation of claim 3, "the reception channel" refers to a particular one of the reception channels.

Regarding claim 5, the limitation "said network" on page 17 line 9 refers to a telephone network. It is clear from prior state of the Art. If necessary the applicant agrees to exclude from claim 1 the words: "connected to said network". Here also, should the Examiner desire to make a further change, this is left to the Examiner's discretion.

The limitation of claim 7, "the reception channel" refers to one of the reception channels.

Thus according to the teachings of Baratz the telephone sets are connected to the local computer network (37) through the interface module (172) and host computer. The telephone interface (102) is part of the interface module (172). It is impossible without working host computers (40) to phone each other by the telephone sets (42).

The applicant does not find a reference, which points out the connection of the interface module (172) directly to the local computer

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network (37) connecting computers.

The claimed invention differs from Baratz in capability of a telephony adapter together with a network adapter to connect a telephone set directly to the local computer network connecting computers. It allows calls of the telephone - - computer or computer - - telephone to be made. The use of the telephone sets is not limited by computers. According to the claimed invention it is possible without computers to phone each other by the telephone sets connected to the local computer network.

The claimed invention and Baratz are deciding the task to provide telephone communication through a local computer network by different ways. Baratz has suggested using the host computers for it. The claimed invention has suggested using only adapters, which are working independently from the host computer. The claimed invention and Baratz each have different possibilities for connection of the telephone sets. According to the claimed invention, the telephone set may be connected to any point of the local computer network. According to the teachings of

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Baratz the telephone set may be connected only to host computer or telephony server which are connected to the local computer network. A positive effect and advantage of using the claimed invention consists in more convenience when connecting the telephone sets. It will increase if the local computer network occupies a lot of rooms of different divisions. In this case more probably using a telephone set without a computer and, the necessary number of the telephone sets may be much more than the number or quantity of the computers.

With respect to new claims 9 to 12, these claims are somewhat more specific and broader in some respects than claims 1 to 3.

Specifically claim 9, in addition to including the Examiner's suggestions excludes the connections to the telephone network.

Claim 11 additionally adds that the digital signals are compatible with the network protocol.

Applicant also desires to point out that applicant does not agree with the Examiner that each telephone is being connected to the local

computer network directly through telephone adapter 102- - .

Specifically, the - - applicant does not find a reference, which points out the connection of the interface module (102 and 172) directly to the local computer network (37) connecting computers. According to Baratz the telephone sets are connected to the local computer network (37) through the interface module (172 and 102) and host computer. The telephone interface (102) is part of the interface module (172).

With respect to claim 11, this additional feature is added on the basis according to the sentence of the description “- - - the adapter converts digital signals into signals compatible with the network protocol” (page 10, lines 19, 20 of the description). In accordance with the claimed invention this additional feature is a function of the adapter. In accordance with Baratz and Skigin the adapters do not have the same function.

The applicant considers that the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are not such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious from the teachings of the prior

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art as suggested by the Examiner.

If there are any points outstanding, the Examiner is respectfully asked to call applicant's attorney, at 914-724-4300, in order to do what is necessary to place the application into condition for allowance.

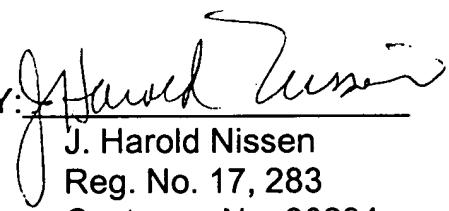
A separate paper is being submitted as an Appendix and that is to show the version with the changes suggested to be made to the claims as well as the new claims.

Favorable action is solicited.

In the event that a charge is to be made relative to this subject patent application, then same may be charged to attorney's Deposit Account No. 10-0100.

Respectfully submitted

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APPENDIX

Version with Markings to Show Changes

1. (Amended) A telephone network for a structured site, essentially of a business office type, comprising a local computer network connecting computers at the transmitting and receiving ends of the system through network adapters, and telephone sets connected to said telephone network to provide telephone communication between the parties at the transmitting and receiving ends through said local computer network, wherein it is provided with a computer telephony server connected to the local computer network and to a general telephone network, with telephone adapters according to the number of telephone sets, each telephone set being connected, directly through a telephone adapter and a network adapter connected in series thereto, to the local computer network, the telephone adapter being capable of converting analog/digital signals adapted to the clock frequency of the local network, user call signals into addresses of other telephone adapters connected to said local computer network, and hang-up signals.

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2. (Amended) A network as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least some of the computers connected to said telephone network are provided with multimedia software to allow direct voice telephone communication

3. (Amended) A network as claimed in claim 1, wherein [a] the telephone adapter has a transmission channel and reception channels, the transmission channel having a signal detector-distributor with an input connected to a telephone set, a first output of said signal detector-distributor being connected to the input of a tone dialing recognition device having its output connected to the input of a recognized number transmission device, which has its output connected through the network adapter to the local computer network, a second output of the signal detector-distributor being connected to the input of an analog-to-digital converter having its output connected to the input of a compressor whose output is connected to a processor unit having software to allow exchange of digital data to be effected within the framework of common network protocols, and the reception channel having a voice and tone signal transmission priority device having its output connected to the telephone

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set and a first input connected to the output of a call signal dialer, whose input is connected to a call number data converter having its input connected to the local computer network through said network adapter, a second input of the voice and tone signal transmission priority device being connected to the output of a voice signal transmitter, whose input is connected to the output of a decompressor having its input connected to said processor unit.

5. (Amended) A system to maintain telephone communication between remote structured sites, comprising, at a first site, an internal telephone network including a local computer network to connect computers at the transmitting and receiving ends of the system through network adapters, a computer telephony server connected to the local computer network of said site and to the general telephone network, and telephone sets [connected to said network] to provide telephone communication between parties at the transmitting and receiving ends through said local computer network, [wherein it is provided, at the first site, with a computer telephony server connected to the local computer network

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of said site and to the general telephone network in the area of said site,] and with telephone adapters according to the number of telephone sets, each telephone set being directly connected, through a telephone adapter and the network adapter connected in series thereto, to the local computer network, the telephone adapter being capable of converting analog/digital signals adapted to the clock frequency of the local network, user call signals into the addresses of other telephone adapters connected to said local computer network, and hang-up signals, each successive site having an internal telephone network duplicating the internal telephone network of the [first] first site, the local computer network of each site being provided with a router connected thereto and to a router of the local computer network of at least one other site through a communication channel of the computer networks of the remote structured sites.

6. (Amended) A system as claimed in claim 5, wherein at least some of the computers connected to said internal telephone network are provided with multimedia software to allow direct voice telephone communication.

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7. (Amended) A system as claimed in claim 5, wherein the telephone adapter has a transmission channel and at least one reception channel, the transmission channel having a signal detector-distributor connected to the input of the telephone set and a first output connected to the input of a tone dialing recognition device, whose output is connected to the input of a recognized number transmission device having its output connected through the network adapter to the local computer network, a second output of the signal detector-distributor being connected to the input of an analog-to-digital converter having its output connected to the input of a compressor whose output is connected to a processor unit provided with software to allow exchange of digital data to be effected within the framework of common network protocols, and one of the reception channels having a voice and tone signal transmission priority device having its output connected to the telephone set and a first input connected to the output of a call signal dialer, which has its input connected to a call number data converter having its input connected through said network adapter to the local computer network, a second input of the voice and tone signal

transmission priority device being connected to the output of a voice signal transmitter having its input connected to the output of a digital-to-analog converter having its input connected to the output of a decompressor, whose output is connected to said processor unit.

9. (New) A telephone network for a structured site, essentially of a business office type, comprising a local computer network connecting computers at the transmitting and receiving ends of the system through network adapters, and telephone sets to provide telephone communication between the parties at the transmitting and receiving ends through said local computer network, including telephone adapters according to the number of telephone sets, each telephone set being connected, directly through a telephone adapter and a network adapter connected in series thereto, to the local computer network, the telephone adapter being capable of converting analog/digital signals adapted to the clock frequency of the local network, user call signals into addresses of other telephone adapters connected to said local computer network, and hang-up signals.

10. (New) The network as claimed in claim 9, wherein the

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telephone adapter has a transmission channel and at least one reception channel, the transmission channel having a signal detector-distributor with an input connected to a telephone set, a first output of said signal detector-distributor being connected to the input of a tone dialing recognition device having its output connected to the input of a recognized number transmission device, which has its output connected through the network adapter to the local computer network, a second output of the signal detector-distributor being connected to the input of an analog-to-digital converter having its output connected to the input of a compressor whose output is connected to a processor unit having software to allow exchange of digital data to be effected within the framework of common network protocols, and at least one reception channel having a voice and tone signal transmission priority device having its output connected to the telephone set and a first input connected to the output of a call signal dialer, whose input is connected to a call number data converter having its input connected to the local computer network through said network adapter, a second input of the voice and tone signal transmission priority device being

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connected to the output of a voice signal transmitter, whose input is connected to the output of a decompressor having its input connected to said processor unit.

11. (New) The network as claimed in claim 10, wherein the digital signals are converted into signals compatible with the network protocol.

12. (New) The network as claimed in claim 9, wherein at least some of the computers connected to said network are provided with multimedia software to allow direct voice telephone communication.

Respectfully submitted

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